

Hongkong Telegraph



No. 3666

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1894.

THIRTY DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

Banks.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorized Capital \$1,000,000
Subscribed Capital \$500,000

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors—
D. Gillies, Esq. Chow Tung Shing, Esq.
Chan Kit Shan, Esq. Kwan Hoi Chuen, Esq.
H. Stollerfoht, Esq.
Chief Manager,
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Branches—London, Yokohama, Shanghai and Amoy.

BANKERS:—
The Commercial Bank of Scotland,
Paris Banking Co., and The Alliance Bank (Ltd.)

Interest for 12 months: Fixed, 5 per Cent.
Hongkong, 16th November, 1893. [7]

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$1,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP \$251,093.15-0

BANKERS:—
CAPITAL & COUNTRIES BANK, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:
No. 3, PRINCE'S STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES:
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI.

AGENCIES:
PENANG, SINGAPORE AND YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF INTEREST,
ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS
and Fixed Deposits can be ascertained
on application.
Every description of Banking and Exchange
business transacted.

CHANTREY INCHBALD,
Manager.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1893. [32]

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL \$1,000,000
SUBSCRIBED \$1,185,000

BANKERS:—
LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT
ACCOUNTS at the rate of 4 per cent.
per annum on the Daily Balances.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—
For 12 Months 5 per cent.
" 6 " 4 " "
" 3 " 3 " "

JOHN THURBURN,
Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1894. [20]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this CORPORATION will be held at the CITY HALL, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 17th day of February next, at Twelve o'clock, NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1893.

By Order of the Court of Directors.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1894. [173]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the REGISTERS OF SHARES of the CORPORATION will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, the 3rd to the 17th day of February next; (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1894. [173]

NOTICE.

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN AND THE STRAITS, LIMITED.

SHAREHOLDERS are reminded that the SECOND INSTALLMENT of CALL, amounting to FIVE SHILLINGS per Share on the Ordinary Shares of the Bank, is DUE on the 1st February, 1894, and is PAYABLE at the Office of the Bank, No. 1, Queen's Road, either by Demand Draft on London or in Local Currency equivalent.

CHANTREY INCHBALD,
Manager.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1894. [142]

FOR SALE.

JAPAN HAND-MADE PAPERS.

JAPAN PRINTING PAPERS.

JAPAN COPIING PAPERS.

JAPAN WALL PAPERS.

Prices very moderate.

ORDERS respectfully solicited by the Under-
signed.

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA,

10, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1894. [190]

Insurances.

THE STANDARD.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE.

1. AMONG THE MANY ADVANTAGES of this form of Assurance, the following may be mentioned:—

(a)—It secures an immediate Provision for wife and family or other relatives in event of early death.

(b)—It provides a Fund for Retirement.

(c)—It supplies an excellent Investment for the regular accumulation of small fixed sums of money.

(d)—The Surrender and loan values are larger than under ordinary Policies.

2. AFTER THE POLICY HAS BEEN THREE YEARS IN FORCE—should the Policy-holder wish to discontinue future payments—he will be entitled to receive, on application, a FREE PAID-UP POLICY for a proportionate amount of the Sum Assured, as explained in the Prospectus.

Full particulars on application.

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
Agents,
STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

Hongkong, 8th August, 1893. [747]

SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND.

THE Underigned are prepared to accept FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES on favourable terms.

Current rates, and a guaranteed Bonus equal to that paid by the local Offices.

S. J. DAVID & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1892. [415]

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED \$1,000,000

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

HEAD OFFICE:
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

Hongkong, 24th November, 1893. [180]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 600,000 \$333,333.33-
EQUAL TO \$318,000.00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
LEE SING, Esq. LO YUK MOON, Esq.
LOU TEO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS on GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the World.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1893. [974]

Intimations.

HONGKONG SMOKING CONCERT CLUB.

THE next CONCERT will be held in the THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL, on SATURDAY, 3rd February, at 9.15 P.M.

Chairman Mr. H. E. R. HUNTER.

J. D. LAPRAIK,
Hon. Sec.

Hongkong, 27th January, 1894. [159]

SITUATION WANTED.

A GENTLEMAN (English) aged 35, seeks suitable employment in an English or German House in Hongkong or any Coast Port of China. Able to correspond well in ENGLISH, GERMAN and DUTCH has a thorough practical knowledge of BOOK-KEEPING and GENERAL OFFICE WORK.

Apply to "X,"
c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1894. [159]

NOTICE.

CAPTAIN NOYES of the American bark *Colombo*, will not be responsible for any DEBTS contracted by the Crew of that vessel while in this port.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1894. [168]

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the TRADE MARKS of the CHU KWONG LAM (朱廣蘭) and CHU YAU LAN (朱有蘭) Firms, respectively, (Manufacturers of TOBACCO, have been duly Registered in this Colony, pursuant to Ordinance 16 of 1873 and 8 of 1885.

CHU KWONG LAM,
AND
CHU YAU LAN.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1894. [68]

NGAL SHANG,
20, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

RATTAN FURNITURE
of Every Description.
CHAIRS, COUCHES, TABLES, BASKETS,
CHILDREN'S COTS, &c. &c.
Latest Patterns, Best Workmanship.

Also
Rattan Cots, 30th Rattan, Canton Road, and
Sunderland, of all kinds.

Hongkong, 26th November, 1893. [60]

Intimations.

W. BREWER.

HAS JUST RECEIVED
5,000 NEW CHEAP NOVELS.

WALLACE'S PRINCE OF INDIA, author: Ben Hur.
A 1 Telegraph Code.
Gibbie's Text Book of Geology.
New Queen's Regulations.
All the Christmas Annuals.
Gentlemen's Brown Rinses and Call Walking Boots and Shoes.

WHITAKER'S ALMANACKS—1894.

W. BREWER,
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1894. [40]

KELLY & WALSH, LD.

NOW READY
THE

SHANGHAI NAUTICAL POCKET MANUAL, \$1.50.

IMPERIAL ENGLISH & CHINESE DIARY \$1.00.

IMPERIAL ENGLISH & CHINESE DATE BLOCK, 75c.

DOLLARS & STERLING EXCHANGE TABLES,
2/- to 3/6.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED,
PUBLISHERS.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1894. [6]

CENTRAL HOTEL, SHANGHAI.

Electric Lighting throughout the Premises.

THIS long-established SELECT Family Hotel, situated on the Bund, facing the river in the centre of the Settlements, is now fitted with the latest modern improvements, including Bath and Dressing Rooms ATTACHED to Suites and Single Rooms, with hot and cold water laid on, DOUCHE, SHOWER, SPRAYS, etc., and heated to a comfortable temperature during winter.

COMMODOUS RECEPTION ROOM FOR VISITORS.

SEPARATE ROOMS FOR PRIVATE DINNER PARTIES, &c.

An Assistant attends on Passengers by Mail Steamers.

N.B.—Special reduced charges may be arranged for on application to the Manager.

F. E. REILLY,
PROPRIETOR.

736

DAWSON'S PERFECTION OLD SCOTCH WHISKY.

ALLISTON & CO., SOLE AGENTS, Hongkong and the Far East,
68, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1893. [41]

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

NEW STOCK OF SADDLERY.

RACING GEAR.

STABLE REQUISITES.

RACING SADDLES, WHIPS, BRIDLES, WEIGHT CLOTHS, SADDLE CLOTHS, ROLLERS, GIRTHS, &c., &c., &c.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1893. [50]

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS, "Kremia"—A. B. C. Code—TELEPHONE, No. 52.

PROPRIETORS.....THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL—the most commodious and best appointed Hotel in the Far East, affords unequalled accommodation to travellers and others. It is situated in the centre of the town, opposite the General Post Office and the Hongkong Club, adjacent to Paddocks Wharf (the principal landing stage of the Colony) and is close proximity to the Banks and Shipping Offices.

THE TABLE PHOTO, at separate tables, is supplied with every delicacy, the cuisine being under experienced supervision.

THE BED-ROOMS, with adjoining Bath-rooms, are airy and well ventilated, open on to spacious Verandahs, are lighted by gas and fitted throughout with electric columns.

The Reading, Writing and Smoking Rooms, Ladies' Dressing Rooms, the new Bar and public BILLIARD ROOMS (for English and American Tables) are fitted with every convenience.

THE WINES & SPIRITS are selected by an Expert and the BEST BRANDS only are supplied.

HYDRAULIC ASCENDING ROOMS of the latest and most improved type convey passengers and baggage from the Kaituma Hall in each of the above buildings.

NIGHT PORTERS and WATCHMEN are constantly on duty.

Apply to the Manager.

Hongkong, 17th November, 1893. [152]

Intimations.

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FIFTY-FIFTH ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 18, Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, TO-MORROW, the 2nd February, at 12 o'clock, NOON, for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, declaring a Dividend, and electing Directors and Auditors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 29th instant to the 2nd February, inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors.

T. ARNOLD,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1894. [104]

THE AUSTIN ARMS HOTEL AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the COMPANY will be held at its Registered Office, 18 and 20, Queen's Road Central, on SATURDAY, the 3rd February next, at Noon, when the Subjoined Resolution, which was passed at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Company held on the 18th January instant, will be submitted for Confirmation, as a Special Resolution:—

"That THE AUSTIN ARMS HOTEL AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED, be wound-up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance 1863 to 1869, and that HAST BUCK, of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, be and he is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purposes of such winding-up."

By Order.

JOHN A. JUPP,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 19th January, 1894. [122]

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 4, Prince's Street, at 12 o'clock (NOON) on SATURDAY, 10th February next, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1893.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 3rd to 10th February, both days inclusive.

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 27th January, 1894. [155]

MASONIC BALL—1894.

A MASONIC BALL, under the Auspices of the DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA, will be held at the CITY HALL, on MONDAY, the 26th February.

BRETHREN desirous of INVITING GUESTS are requested to send the Names of their Friends to the Underigned.

The Subscription is limited to \$10 for Masons, and \$5 for each GUEST INVITED (Non-Masons). DESCRIPTION LISTS are now ready for SIGNATURE at the Hongkong Hotel, VICTORIA HOTEL, INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, Messrs. FALCONER & CO., Messrs. HEURMANN & HERST, Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and at the MASONIC HALL, Zealand Street.

S. HANISCH,
Honorary Secretary.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1894. [172]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 1894,
2.45 P.M.

SHORT RANGE CUP AND SPOONS. Entrance 30 cents, 200, 500 and 600 yards. Shots at each range. NO sighting shot. Usual handicap points.

See special circular respecting "Martini" Cup and Spoons.

ARTHUR CHAPMAN,
Honorary Secretary.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1894. [146]

HOO LOONG.

THE HOO LOONG General Drapery Establishment has now on view the contents of several Cases of Goods ex Mail Steamers, from London and Paris; all of the finest material and latest fashion. NOVELTIES in Ladies Dress Materials, Fine Cashmere, Flannel, Velvet and Velveteens in every shade.

Flannels, Ceylon Shirtings, Serge, latest shades. Silks and Satins, Table-covers, Towelling, Sheetings, Glaze, Hostlers, Embroidered Handkerchiefs, &c., &c., all at reasonable prices.

Heavy stocks of Spring and Summer Goods for Ladies' and Children's wear are now arriving direct from Europe per mail steamers.

HOO LOONG,
No. 5, Lyndhurst Terrace.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1894. [170]

SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

OBTAINED 14 HIGHEST PRIZES at the CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR.

Just landed an Invoice of Assorted SEWING and LEATHER-NEEDLES, SHUTTLES, and FINEST MACHINE OIL.

H. K. BOTTLEWALLA & Co.,
Sole Agents,
5, D'Almeida Street.

Hongkong, 27th January, 1894. [141]

THE SINGER.

THE SINGER.

THE SINGER.

THE SINGER.

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THE SINGER.

THE SINGER.

THE SINGER.

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ST. JOHN LODGE

OF HONGKONG,
No. 618, S.C.

A NEMERGENCY MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the PEARL ANDERSON HALL, Zealand Street, TO-MORROW, the 2nd February, at 8 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brothers are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 31st January, 1894. [177]

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAIWANFOO.

THE Company's Steamship

"THALES,"
Captain Bathurst, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 2nd February, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1894. [173]

"MOGUL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

THE Steamship

"SIKH,"
Captain Howley, will be despatched as above on or about FRIDAY, the 2nd February.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1894. [151]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Steamship

"DENBIGHSHIRE,"
Davies, Commander, will be despatched for the above Ports on SATURDAY, the 3rd February, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th January, 1894. [149]

"SHELL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR HAMBURG AND LONDON.

THE Steamship

Intimations.

DR. FENWICK'S FOOD
FOR
NURSING MOTHERS AND INFANTS
ALSO FOR
DYSPEPTICS AND INVALIDS.

It is specially recommended as an article of diet for NURSING MOTHERS as it will strengthen and support them and at the same time enrich the Natural Milk and increase the Supply.

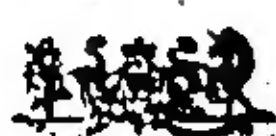
INFANTS FED on this Food put on flesh rapidly.

In two and sixpenny and one shilling and sixpenny bottles at 1/10 and 7/0 Cents.

AGENTS IN HONGKONG:

DAKIN CRUICKSHANK &
COMPANY, LIMITED,
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1894.



CHEMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

臣公司

FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS.

ANALYSTS.

PERFUMERS.

P.TENT MEDICINE PROPRIETORS AND
VENDORS.

DRUGGISTS' SUNDRYMEN.

CIGAR DEALERS.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
AND

AERATED WATER MAKERS.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
香港大藥房

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
The Hongkong Dispensary, Hongkong.

The Shanghai Pharmacy, 24, Nanking
Road, Shanghai.

Bolton's, 14, Escorial, Manila.

The Canton Dispensary, Canton.

The Dispensary, Fuchow.

The Hongkong Dispensary, Hankow.

The Hongkong Dispensary, Tientsin.

London Office, 8, Fenchurch Buildings, E.C.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1894.

The Hongkong Telegraph.
HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1894.

PAWNSHOPS.

"Be it ever so humble," sings our very own poet, "there's no place like the pawnshop," and there is very much more in that than meets the eye. In Hongkong there are thousands of pawnshops doing an immense trade, especially just before the Chinese New Year. Yet in this colony, where the Government is badly in want of money, and hardly knows which way to turn in order to cut down expenses or raise money to meet them, not a cent of revenue is obtained from this rich source. In most civilized countries the pawnshops are made to contribute large sums, which they scarcely feel at all, while usually their earnings powers are limited by law. In England the rate of interest is fixed, and there is a heavy penalty in several Continental countries the pawnshops are a Government department, quite as much as the Customs and Post Offices; in some British colonies, such as Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, and in most of the semi-British states in the East, this branch of revenue is farmed out to the highest bidder. In the Philippine Islands, the "Monte de Piedad y Caja de Ahorros" or Pawnshops

and Savings-banks Department, is one of the most valuable in the whole system of government. During a single week, for instance, the two branches record totals of 1,322 and 136 transactions respectively for the city of Manila alone, representing a turn-over of about \$20,000 in the former and \$22,000 in the latter section. To take the pawnshops separately, five per cent. is a moderate estimate of net profits, and would mean at least \$2,000 a week cleared; and the annual relief to tax-payers would amount to the appreciable sum of \$100,000. Might we not learn even from such a conservative country, enervated by the traditions of the Middle Ages? The British Parliament has in recent years been taking lessons in decentralisation from effete old Spain; the County Councils of 1889 and the Parish Councils of the current session (even though their designers may not know it) a comparatively close copy of the *Consejos Provinciales*, *Arrabales* and *Pueblos* that have existed under his Most Catholic Majesty for many years. Then, if we can find something to imitate in one Spanish system, is it not reasonably probable that other systems of theirs may be worth introducing here? Hongkong has a Government so poor, that its policemen are compelled to do duty in threadbare uniforms and make their boots last out twice the normal time, while in other departments even more ridiculous parsimony is perforce de rigueur; whilst here also is a rich source of legitimate revenue, freely used in other places, but untouched by us. We do not want new taxation, nor increase of existing burdens; but this is a different matter altogether. Frequently usurers have been severely criticised by Hongkong judges for having the unconscionable audacity to simply take what is offered; scores of cases could be mentioned, showing that 100 per cent. is a trifle in the Hongkong loan market. Nobody ever heard of a pawnshop being bankrupt—except in rare instances where "Uncle" has got out of his legitimate field and set up as a "Trust and Loan Company" or a "Mortgage Investment Syndicate"—whereas there is no doubt that in Hongkong the Shylock business is responsible for an immense amount of misery, on which the "spiders," chiefly Indians and Chinese, grow wealthy. Of course, there are Usury Laws, but they are even more easily evaded than the generality of Hongkong laws. Only on Friday last Mr. Justice Aickroyd had before him a Portuguese strapping who had, with two friends, obtained \$20 from a Sikh—a soldier, who is "prohibited from money-lending"—and in return these simple boys had given a promissory note for \$30, on which they had paid \$6 a month interest; and when one month's interest got in arrears, an extra dollar was clapped on next month! This is but an instance of what happens every week. Of course, the fly who walks into the spider's parlour has himself to blame; but that is not our point. Granting that when a man plunges like a suicide into hopeless debt he has still no reason to abuse the creditors, that fact does not in the least diminish the advantages to be gained by a Government monopoly of pawnshops and loan offices. We do not propose to interfere with the financial transactions of established banks; but let the Government take over all these pawnshops, and make an end of these illicit harpies altogether. Make it illegal to lend or borrow outside of the Government establishment (with exceptions that will naturally suggest themselves) and the revenue will at once receive a valuable addition, while one cause of untold wretchedness will be wiped out for ever.

TELEGRAMS.

THE CAZAR.

LONDON, January 30th.
The Emperor of Russia is reported to be better.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

The French Government has introduced a measure adding two francs to the duty on wheat.

A NAVAL ENGAGEMENT.

The Brazilian insurgent fleet fired upon an American warship which was escorting a merchantman. A sharp engagement ensued in which the American completely defeated the insurgents, who surrendered. It is believed this will prove the end of the Brazilian revolt.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Daily Press geographer is abroad again—has got Guatemala in South America!

THE P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer *China*, with mails, &c., left San Francisco for this port, via Honolulu and Yokohama, on the 30th ult.

THE Agents (Messrs. Dodwell, Carrill & Co.) inform us that the Northern Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamer *Megui* arrived at Victoria, B.C., on the 29th ult.

The London Lyric Company, according to latest advices, have been playing to good houses in Rangoon. They will be in Hongkong about the end of the present month.

WE are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.) that the E. & A. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Manila*, from Australia, left Port Darwin for this port on the 30th ult.

A REGULAR meeting of Zealand Lodge, No. 523, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

THREE "shows" well known to Hongkong audiences were having a good time in California by latest advices from that port—Tommy Hudson's Gipsy Party, Willard's Opera Company, and Harston's Circus.

It has been ascertained that the working of the electric railway in London can positively be felt as far away as the north of Norfolk, the motion being conveyed by the telegraph wires along the whole distance—about 120 miles.

WE are informed that thirteen thousand shares have been applied for in the New Zealand Gold Mining Co., but that, owing to the new approach of the Chinese New Year, the date of application has, by request, been extended until the 15th inst.

THE programme of the next Athletic Sports, to be held on the 10th proximo, will be found in our advertising columns.

CAPT. MCNEILL, late of the steamship *Hazel*, came himself through the brain with a revolver in the *Masonic Club*, Singapore, on the 24th ult. The probable cause of the rash act was that he had been "sicked" on the ship, added to a big bout of drinking distilled dandelion. Deceased was a native of Glasgow, where his widow resides.

OWING to the necessity for more or less extensive repairs occasioned by the explosion of a number of rockets while lying at anchor off Bangkok city on the 15th inst., as reported in these columns on the 30th idem, the Scottish Oriental Co's steamer *Derwagoway*, Captain R. Unsworth, will not be able to resume duty in the Hongkong-Bangkok route before Friday week at the earliest.

AT the Magistrate's office this afternoon Mr. H. E. Wodehouse continued the inquiry into the circumstances connected with the sudden death of Pua Alum and seven others on the occasion of the landing on a vacant piece of land on Caloa Road, opposite No. 5, Police Station, on the 19th idem. After hearing a good deal of evidence, technical and otherwise, the Jury find that the deaths were caused by the landing, and that the P.W.D. was in no wise to blame. A vide was added suggesting that the law be so amended as to empower the P.W.D. to interfere when they know that similar dangerous work is being carried on.

THE Dutch Court of Appeal, with a gravity which will not be shared by the youth of Holland has just decided that to kiss a young lady against her will is not an offence, "inasmuch as it is in the nature of a warm mark of sympathy." There is a great old-world favour about this decision. Judged of in the light it throws upon human emotions, the Dutch seem to begin to merit the reputation of a peculiarly sympathetic people. But for woden shoes and some other drawbacks, Holland might also be deemed a holiday resort. Only—does not the Court of Appeal throw rather a heavy responsibility upon big brothers?

A JAPANESE sailor, a member of the crew of the steamship *Toyoko Maru*, Capt. J. G. Edwards, met with a fatal accident on board his ship last night. It seems that the unfortunate man went below to the forecastle by the companion-way at the fore-hold tween-deck hatch, he was proceeding to walk over the hatch-way when he stepped, in the dark, into space and fell fully 24 feet to the bottom of the ship, and with such force that his neck and one of his legs were broken. The matter was duly reported to the police this morning and an inquiry will be held at an early date. The body of the luckless seaman was buried this afternoon.

AT the Regular meeting of the Victoria Precinctory held last night, E. Sir K. C. Anderson was installed in the chair as P.P., after which he invested his Officers for the ensuing year as follows:—

President.....Mr. K. R. Cooke.
Constable.....R. Markwick.
Marshall.....J. Kirkwood.
Sub-Marshall.....J. Bryant.
Treasurer.....J. W. Klinghorn.
Registrar.....Dyer Ball.
Capt. of the Guard.....D. MacDonald.
Almoner.....F. D. Goddard.
1st Herald.....J. P. Rogers.
Guard.....J. Macneil.

IT is related in one of the old Chinese Classics that Ka the Long-headed spoke these words, saying:—"The advantages of skillful negotiation are such that an able diplomatist, who has sifted the world and things worldly, had better travel 10,000 li to talk even to wooden-headed Imperial officials than to allow profound knowledge and philanthropic schemes to be smothered in smouldering within his own brain." This, according to ancient historians, was a portion of a sermon delivered on Mount Gough to the island of Hongkong, and the chronicler further states that the edifying multitude bowed down and worshipped Ka as he descended the mist-covered Mount. Hazy as was the meaning of the sage's utterance in days of yore, in the light of recent important events the multitudes of the great Middle Kingdom should have no difficulty in arriving at a proper understanding of what has for many generations completely surpassed the comprehension of ordinary mortals. Truly, we live in a progressive age, one in which the far-famed sages are all the rage!

ALICE MEMORIAL AND NETHERSOLE HOSPITALS.

Statistics for January, 1894.

	A.M.E.	N.H.
In-Patients remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1894.....	43	33
In-Patients admitted to Hospital during January.....	29	20
Total number treated as In-Patients.....	72	53
Of these there were:—		
Discharged cured.....	34	19
Discharged relieved.....	8	5
Discharged on other grounds.....	3	2
Died in Hospital.....	1	1
In-Patients remaining in Hospital on 1st January, 1894.....	26	25
Out-Patients, new cases.....	753	51
Out-Patients, return visits.....	53	98
Total number of Out-Patient visits.....	3,719	1,49

THOMAS J. FURTON, M.A., M.P., Superintendent.

THE stirring chiming of the fire-bell echoed through the city at the early hour of eight o'clock this morning, owing to the ravages of the fire kind in house No. 26, Market Street, which was quickly gutted. The Fire Brigade, under Superintendent Wodehouse and Assistant Superintendent Horrold, arrived at the scene of the conflagration too late to prevent the spread of the flames to No. 1, Rutter Lane, which was almost completely razed to the ground before they obtained mastery over the flames. However, the efforts of the firemen were effective and well directed, otherwise the stiff north breeze prevailing at the time would have resulted in all probability, in a goodly portion of Rutter Lane and Market Street being burnt to the ground. This fire, which resulted in the destruction of at least 500 worth of valuered property and of which the cause is unknown, was not without a striking incident in the history of the scene of one of the inmates of the house in which it originated. It is that "house" there was, it is reported, as aged 112 a woman who was rescued by a plucky Portuguese youth who, after hearing that there was somebody to be rescued, got to the top of the house, raised the burning edifice, and succeeded in bringing the helpless inmate safely into the street. A correspondent, presumably an eye-witness, writes that the Chinese woman would gladly have perished but for the good work of the Portuguese. The Portuguese was so brave as to live, and the Chinese woman was so brave as to die. Happily, there are no fatalities reported, and none of the inmates of the house are injured in the damage done.

THIS juvenile scionist who is perpetrating a series of "peppy" deeds in our esteemed morning contemporary is still under the impression that this year is 1893!

IN the Singapore Criminal Court on the 22nd ult., a Chinese named Ng Ah Yow was unanimously found guilty of murder and sentenced to death by the Chief Justice. The charge was of having killed the principal witness in the Thompson Road murder case and thrown his body into the impounding reservoir. Ng Ah Yow will probably not be hanged—he is certainly ought not to be judicially strangled, considering that this was the third time he had to stand his trial, the jury disagreeing on the two other occasions. In Scotland the verdict in the first case, as in the recent sensational *Hamborough* murder trial, would have been one of "not proven," and the prisoner having one of "not proven," "tholed his ass," could not have been tried again on the same charge.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. E. J. Aickroyd, Puisne Judge.)

February 1st.

A DISPUTED CONTRACT.

See Loong sued the Spanish Dominican Procurator in Hongkong for \$351, for work done on a verbal contract for the building in Queen's Road, Mr. G. J. Philpott was the plaintiff and Mr. E. C. Ellis (Mr. V. H. Deacon's office) for the defendant.

On the evidence, plaintiff failed to establish any contract with the Procurator. He said he was engaged by the defendant's comparators to do work for the amount now claimed; but there was nothing whatever to show any liability on the part of the Procurator, even if the comparators had made any such contract, which he denied.

Action dismissed with costs.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

(Before Sir Filding Clarke, Chief Justice.)

W. T. BEAVIN, P.W.D.

In the matter of William Thomas Beavin, who had filed his petition in bankruptcy, Mr. B. Bowley (Mr. H. L. Deany's office) appeared for the debtor and applied for a receiving order. Nobody else appeared in the case.

Mr. Bowley stated that the debtor was a pensioner from the Royal Engineers, having served with that corps for 23 years; since then he had been a foreman in the Public Works Department of the Colony. His liabilities at the present time amounted to about \$3,000 and his assets about \$1,400. There were two executors issued against him.

His lordship—I do not wish to make a receiving order in a case of this sort until I am fully satisfied that there are some assets for the Court to deal with. It is not clear, I will make an interim receiving order, and then if the Official Receiver after acting on that is satisfied on the point, I can make the order absolute.

Mr. Bowley said that the debtor had furnished worth about 1700 which was being sold in one of the sales just mentioned; there was no bill of sale on it.

His lordship—His Mr. Bruce Shepherd as Official Receiver been communicated with about the assets?

Mr. Sangster (Deputy Receiver)—Not yet.

His lordship—Well, I will wait a few minutes, if he can attend now. If he is satisfied that there are substantial assets, I will make a receiving order, but if not, only an interim order.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd then appeared and stated that he was satisfied as to the existence of substantial assets for division.

His lordship—Then I will grant the order at once; and if it is convenient when these bankruptcies come on, Mr. Shepherd, I would ask you to attend.

Mr. Shepherd—Certainly; I did not know anything about this until just now.

SANITARY BOARD.

The ordinary fortnightly meeting of this body was held to-day. Mr. F. H. May (captain superintendent of police) presided and there were also present Dr. P. B. C. Ayres (colonial surgeon), Mr. W. Chatham (acting Director of Public Works), Dr. J. Canille, Dr. Ho Kai, Messrs. J. D. Humphreys, N. J. Eds, and E. A. Ram (secretary).

On the reading of the minutes, Mr. Eds wished to insert something he had forgotten to say at the last meeting, as to insisting on uniformity of pattern of night-soil buckets; but he was ruled out of order.

The Committee (Messrs. Thomson, Ho Kai, and Humphreys) appointed to consider the complaints as to shavers' fins reported (1) that the complaints came from the Government Civil Hospital, (2) that there is a large shark-fin district near the hospital, (3) that in process of curing sharks' fins involves exposure of fins and refuse on the roofs of houses, to dry in the sun; (4) that the fins cause no nuisance but the refuse is highly objectionable; (5) that the drying of fins refuse should be prohibited in populous places for sanitary reasons, but not the drying of fins; (6) the shark-fin merchants should be regulated accordingly.

Dr. Ayres suggested that the investigations of the committee had been limited to winter time, as summer was needed to appreciate the full force of the smells.

The Chairman said he understood that the Board could adopt the committee's suggestions for the present, and if not adequate, further steps could be taken.

On the motion of Dr. Ho Kai, seconded by Mr. Humphreys, the report of the Shark-fin sub-committee of the Board was adopted.

The mortality statistics showed for the week ended January 20th, 17 deaths per thousand, as against 27.2 for the corresponding period of last year and 27.2 up to January 27th, against 23.9.

On the question of sharking fins, with some remarks by the Colonial Secretary, the Board decided to suggest the idea for the Board's consideration.

To this Mr. Remble, then acting Secretary, appended a note that he had seen such a system in Montreal, Canada, but that the Hon. F. A. Cooper, D.P.W., said the drainage system was under control of the P.W.D. and in no way concerned the Sanitary Board; and that if you pay any attention to public opinion you will have your hands full.

The proposal was supported by Messrs. Lam Wal-shing, Dr. J. D. Humphreys, Dr. Canille, Dr. Ho Kai, and Dr. Ayres; Mr. Chatham, acting D.P.W., and Dr. J. D. Humphreys, a note that the draining of drains with sea-water was not practicable, and the acting Registrar-General agreed with him that the real remedy for the bad smells was to push on with the new system of house drainage, as far as possible.

On the 27th Dec. the acting Secretary, by direction of the Board, wrote to the Colonial Secretary that the Board was not objecting to the experiment being tried, but that the Government to say how; it would be doing. To this the Colonial Secretary replied asking the Board to say if it was, if feasible, it would be advisable, as the Board must be prepared not only to take the

interest but to be competent to advise in sanitary matters." He also enclosed a copy of a report from the acting Director of Public Works, stating that (1) the new main sewers in the west and central districts were now completed; (2) nevertheless many house-drains had not been connected to the new system, but still discharged into the storm-water drains, which thus emitted smells through the (untrapped) gratings of the street gutters; (3) the existing drains contained deposit from this source, sufficient to contaminate a large amount of air; (4) the old storm-water drains, being of large size, and not intended for sewage at all under the new system, but only for rain-water, thus contained a great deal of bad air, which might be driven upwards by the wind whenever the Praya outlet is exposed at low tide; (5) the Praya Reclamation works being unfinished, there are several small bays where there is no current, and so the sewage lies stagnant at the sewer outlets; (6) the new main sewers are systematically inspected and cleaned, and flushing-jacks are used where needed; (7) when all the house-drains in the colony are connected to the new main sewers, instead of to the storm-water drains as at present, there will be probably no trouble; (8) when the Reclamation is finished, the sewer outlets will be under water at low tide in the west and central districts; (9) until these two things are done, the system will be incomplete; (10) several extracts from the reports in the *Gazette* of September 27th, 1890, throw much light on these questions. At the request of Mr. Francis a large mass of correspondence, dating back to July, 1889, was reproduced. After the circulation of all the foregoing documents, Dr. Canille moved a note urged the completion of the new "separate" system as quickly as possible, and as it would take five years at the present rate of progress, some special legislation must be devised. Mr. Humphreys agreed with Messrs. Price, Chadwick, Cooper, and Chatham. Mr. Eds in his note wrote much the same. Mr. Francis thought that on the evidence of the records, the Board ought not to endorse the present proposal of the Government to flush drains with sea water; however, the Government refused to give the Board such power, and so the Board must leave the Government to take all the credit or blame; it was not the Board's business to advise the Government, but only to provide for the surface cleanliness of the Colony and private drains; the Board should have charge of the whole sanitary business of the Colony's water and drainage, with an independent staff, instead of the present unfortunate division of work.

In reference to the water supply, Mr. J. R. Crook, the Water Authority, reported:—"The prescribed domestic quantity is fixed proportionally to the annual rating valuation of premises, a minimum of 5 gallons per head per day being prescribed for tenements assessed at \$200 or less per annum, and rising by two gallons per head for each \$100 in the assessment. It is being fixed for all tenements in the city, and for this purpose the city has been divided up into districts which are being inspected, metered and tested systematically, commencing from Kowloon and working east, the limit being fixed for each district as it is taken in hand. The prescribed domestic quantity as published in the *Gazette* is permanently fixed and is only to be altered by another proclamation; it includes water for all domestic purposes, it has no narrower meaning, and it is deemed legitimate domestic consumption. The following is the consumption per head per day in large cities, including water used for trade and municipal purposes:—London, 28 gallons; Manchester, 21g; Liverpool, 30g; Sheffield, 21g; New York, 92g. The domestic consumption in Berlin is considerably lower than this, at 34 gallons per head per day, averaging 13 gallons, and in Abingdon, Berkshire, to average 4 gallons only. In these two latter places all the services are metered, so that the domestic consumption has been accurately ascertained." Mr. Francis not being present at to-day's meeting, his motion on this question was further postponed.

Mr. Humphreys moved the modification of drainage by-laws which he had notified, giving the sanitary officers discretion to sanction any suitable pipes instead of being limited to one kind. He requested that his remarks at the last meeting had not been reported in full, for he thought the Board should be a living power for public benefit. He hoped to see the day when all unofficial members of the Board, as well as on the Legislative Council, would be elected by the ratepayers, and the official members would vote freely according to their opinions. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman said he did not see what this had to do with the question of using tin or other pipes.

Mr. Humphreys said his idea was to strengthen the Board by having the best possible by-laws, and thus pave the way for embracing the Board.

The other members of the Board were so amused that even Mr. Humphreys laughed. Dr. Ho Kai seconded the motion.

Mr. Chatham said he thought the by-laws already admitted all the best kinds of pipe, and a broader clause in the regulations would only admit inferior qualities, as yet. When a better kind could be devised, then the amendment might be good.

Mr. Humphreys maintained that many other kinds of pipe, not at present sanctioned by the by-laws, would be good enough if carefully laid; but the by-laws were too rigid, and should be made elastic; sanitary work could not be done with red tape.

The Chairman said the by-laws were drafted by two first-class experts, Messrs. Chadwick and Cooper, whose opinions on such technical matters could not safely be reviewed by the Board, however honest and well-intentioned. The proposed amendment would open a loophole for abuses.

Mr. Humphreys rose to reply, but was ruled out of order by the Chairman, having already spoken several times.

Mr. Humphreys—I could not tell in advance what views you would express, Mr. Chairman, and if I can't answer, you decide this question in the dark! It is an important matter for the whole community, and you will not hear the facts of the case!

The Chairman—Mr. Humphreys, I must ask you to sit down.

Mr. Humphreys—All I wish to point out is meetings on some system, and follow regular lines of debate; if you can't recognize the ordinary rules of procedure, you must sit down.

Mr. Humphreys—I will sit down. (But he rose, and continued)—but what I have to say, if I can't say it at this meeting, will be communicated to the public press. What we want is to get to the bottom of the matter. We want to know the facts of the case. We want to know the facts of the case. We want to know the facts of the case.

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If I put it to you in this way:—Supposing in the good times a hundred local firms each did \$50,000 worth of export business in an average year, that would give us \$5,000,000 worth of exports in one year, with at least \$4,000,000 worth of imports, besides thousands of passengers both ways. Now that trade has dropped to about a fourth of what it used to be, and passengers to virtually nil. That's our situation. Y—You observe I have said nothing about the Shanghai and coast ports interested in the trade with California. Their interests used to be equal to, if not greater than those of their competitors in this Colony.

Q—Why don't you now, while a Government is in power in the United States, set on foot a memorial to your own and the British Governments, getting it signed by all interested parties here, in Canton, Shanghai, and the coast ports?

Ans.—It would cost such a lot to get it before our Government!

Q—Never mind. Get it there. It won't come heavy on so many of you, and if successful you would gain profit by it. Don't you agree with me?

Ans.—Yes, I do. You ought to make more inquiries and tell that to Mr. Lo Wai-yeung, the Commodore of the Hongkong and Shanghai Steam Navigation Co., who is connected with the Tung Wah Hospital and our proposed Chamber of Commerce.

At this juncture the *Telegraph's* "special" said:—

"Mr. J. C. Quinn, Collector of Internal Revenue at San Francisco, has prepared a table of statistics which may claim to reveal the real causes of the present depression in the United States. Mr. Quinn himself claims that the financial crisis is directly caused by the result of a drain by China of one and a quarter millions of dollars, without any return in the purchase of American commodities. He estimates that \$500,000,000 have been either carried out or sent to China during the last 30 years, to which depletion he assigns the varied questions which are now agitating Congress and the people at large: 'The circulating medium of the United States,' he says 'is about \$1,300,000,000. During the 30 years mentioned China has absorbed in wages paid to coolies and the difference between exports and imports the sum of \$500,000,000. He asks us, 'How long will it take for them to get it all back? The Custom House records show that from 1860 to 1882 there was shipped from this country to China \$134,000,000. He is confident that a much larger sum was sent to London by exchange on London bills, such exchanges being very desirable in China. But the larger sum has gone to China with the Chinese who have returned. For years, every Chinese steamer carried hundreds of Chinese, and it is safe to say that every one of them had upon his person from \$1,000 to \$5,000 in gold (7) the exchange they send to London calls for gold. They exchange their gold in America for Mexican dollars and ship them to China, and we are compelled to send gold to Mexico to purchase the silver for them. Thus, it will be seen that the gold of our country is gradually, but surely, going to swell the treasury of China. This phase of the question is not without interest in British Columbia of course, and especially at Vancouver, where there arrive and depart many thousands of Chinese yearly. Very little over two years since the *World* published returns showing the amount of money being carried away by one steamer, a view of which the statistics prepared by Mr. Quinn now, it is asserted, be accepted without misgiving. Now, what have you to say to this?"

Ans.—It is not true. What fools we should be! Our people's gold is left in the States and all that comes here is American parchment, in the shape of bills of exchange. The cry about vast quantities of gold going to China is on a par with other arguments used against us by Irish labour agitators.

From the foregoing it will be at once noted that the Registrar General's mission to Dowling Street was not solely connected with the British slave trade, as it was conveniently stated, and it will be interesting to know later on what the fruits of the dual mission were. Perhaps Mr. Lockhart will explain?

In our next issue another interview with a leading Chinese merchant will be published, setting forth further interesting facts relative to the cause of the depression.

(To be continued.)

LATE TELEGRAMS.

CALCUTTA, January 31st.

The honour of Kailashnath has been conferred on Mr. Justice Phipps, for members of the Civil Service here and judge of the High Court.

BOMBAY, January 31st.

Lord Brassey with other members of the Ombudsman arrived by special train at 6 o'clock this morning and drove to Camp at Nandgaon Koth.

Mrs. Annie Besant is expected to stay in Calcutta five days and to deliver three public lectures on Theosophy and Hinduism. Leaving Calcutta on the 16th instant, she will make a tour for about two months in North India, going to Lahore and visiting most of the towns en route, returning to Bombay on the 15th March. She sails for England a few days later.

It has been decided to make an enquiry by an expert into the extent to which salt is illicitly manufactured in the littoral districts of Bengal, where it is supposed that such manufacture proceeds on a somewhat extensive scale. The enquiry has been entrusted to Mr. Ashton.

The public of Calcutta will entertain the men of the East India Squadron at the Town Hall on the 13th instant.

ALLAHABAD, January 31st.

The slight earthquake felt at Allahabad on Thursday evening was also felt at Lucknow, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, and Bhatkhera. There were reports to have been travelling from north to south.

The Lieutenant-Governor will run into Lucknow from Rae Bareilly on the 12th instant to give evidence before the Ombudsman Commission.

A tragic affair is reported from Chanda, in the Central Provinces, where two police constables, after murdering a Sub-Inspector and his orderly, went for Mr. Skinner, Deputy Commissioner, armed with axes and a gun. Mr. Skinner tried to induce them to surrender but without effect, and as one of the men advanced, brandishing an axe, towards Mr. Skinner, Doctor Stickland fired, killing him on the spot. The other man was arrested after a desperate struggle.

CALCUTTA, January 31st.

The expedition against the Abors, a hill tribe in Assam, has had a brush with the enemy. Seventy Abors attempted to surprise a reconnoitring party of 20 military police at B-muk, but were driven off, leaving 7 killed and 50 wounded. The first party of the column arrived at Sadul yesterday and preparations were made for an advance on Bamper, where the stockades are said to be made of plantain leaves. The Volunteers in Dibrugarh are very anxious to join the expedition.

Lord and Lady Lansdowne will leave Calcutta on the 27th January in the R.M. steamer *Warren Hastings*, which takes them to England instead of only as far as Sur, as was previously notified.

LONDON, January 31st.

The latest bulletin states that Lord Kimberley's condition is improving, and that his movements are now nearly normal.

THE DEAD "MARINE."

The following verses appear in a new periodical called the *Globe & Laurel*, written by Misses for Marlowe.

King William sat in his banquet hall,
With a goodly company.
The most festive among them all,
And their leader in revelry.

He seized a bottle and turned his head,
"I was a long-remembered scene,
"Go fetch me a bottle of wine," he said,
"And remove this 'Dead Marine!'"

An old man rose, and his face was wan,
"Mid the laugh at King William's jest,
His hair was white, but his eyes still shone
Like the medals upon his breast."

"I have travelled far both by sea and land,
And in many a bloody war,
But that insult I cannot understand,
Which you cast on my gallant corps."

Up rose the King and towards him bent,
Over the table that stood between,
"It was with a purpose and full intent,
That I called it a 'Dead Marine!'"

"In the empty bottle I sent away
Will be fresh wine decanted,
Like you it has done its duty to-day,
And will do it again when wanted."

"Tis many a year since the King so spoke,
But England and England's Queen
Will know that King William made no mistake
In delecting a 'Dead Marine!'"

TSINGKIANGPU.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

January 16th, 1894.

Of all the countries in the world in which to transact business, China will take the lead as the most difficult place. This remark does not apply to the open ports where Chinese come in contact with foreigners, but to the interior where one sees duplicity in its quintessence, and where the common adage among buyers and sellers is, "If you do not cheat you cannot make a living."

The settling of business difficulties so hard to perform that often by a comparatively small trouble a man's whole business will be ruined. A merchant here recently had just such a bitter pill to swallow. On the East Gate street of this city, where most of the business is done, there was a man who had a silk and satin store, and his trade was good. One afternoon a roll of silk was missing from the counter and a tailor standing near by was suspected and his person searched, but no silk was found.

In civilized countries this would have gone no further so far as the suspected party was concerned, but not so in China. This was the tailor's big opportunity and "face" must be preserved, and some return must be gained if possible beside. The silk man shook both hands (as the Chinese) at the tailor and apologized, but this was not enough and the tailor, after some ineffectual attempts to get a more substantial apology, left and spread his grievance among his friends and fraternity, the latter taking it up at once. Instead of one tailor to deal with, now the poor silk man had several, four of whom made themselves at home in his store and asked and reviled as only a Chinese knows how, but they had to take it out in reviling as nothing was effected by it. Pretty soon the constable was sent for, but he was treated in like manner and beaten to boot. Then the alderman of the district was called in, but he could do nothing but take his share of reviling.

At last the magistrate was solicited and soon arrived on the scene and with little or no preliminary called "Ta" (hey) and the four tailors got so blows asked. This was pretty heavy, when one considers how few blows make a man remember it for a week when he sits down. But the magistrate's blood was up and he gave them as good as they had been giving and then sent them into his yards. The wisdom of this course was a matter of much discussion among the citizens, seeing that the tailors had their "face" to protect, and hard were the feelings against the magistrate. No sooner were the tailors put in jail than their female relatives appeared at the silk shop in full force, and grand mothers, mothers, and children at once entered into the work of destruction, smashing lamps and windows and doing all the damage they could with hand and tongue. By judicious handling on the part of the neighbours, this female mob was got out into the streets and the doors were closed. They held the street till 3 a.m. making night hideous with their wailing and cries for justice. Finally the street became so obstructed that the Taoist sent soldiers to clear it.

The magistrate, seeing what a breeze was stirred up, sent for the original tailor who was making silk gowns at an official's residence. The magistrate in due form sent his card to the official requesting the presence of the tailor, but the official replied the tailor was not there. No official, the natives say, will be willing to be called in a man's "face" on your name! This is their motto, and hence the simple reply that the tailor was not there, the meaning of which the magistrate well knew. As is usual in such cases, there was delay of a day or two, then the magistrate sent the tailor free, but they declined to leave and demanded that the silk merchant have 500 blows too; later, though, they changed their minds and went home.

But feeling ran high against the magistrate for his severity and placards were stuck up against him. One was put on the Taoist's *paifu*, a rude drawing representing the magistrate selling his daughter for immoral purposes (the daughter representing the people). Such a poster displays to a Chinaman great malignity of feeling. At this stage there was some fear of a riot, so the Taoist got out a proclamation warning the people to keep quiet and to govern their families properly or else the women would be punished as well as the men. This had a wholesome effect and the case was reported to the head magistrate at Hsuan-fu for settlement. The poor silk merchant has not dared to open his store since the day of the row, and they say he has had to pay one or two strings of cash into the bargain. The tailors have not as yet recovered the "face" which they lost, though they stood up for it so valiantly, even at the expense of other parts of the body, and so the whole affair remains unfinished waiting for the soothing touch of old Father Time to heal the breach.

Wonderful weather this year, real November weather, clear frosty nights up till 15th January, when half an inch of snow fell. For more than two weeks a blighting of animals has been prohibited, but it is a convenient kind of prohibition, four days' prohibition and two days' people to lay in a supply to run through the prohibited days. The celestial mind, we see, in matters religious, is certainly elastic. Like the garment sold by the old Jew clothier, it is made to fit every occasion.—N. C. Daily News.

A STUDY IN BANKING.

NEW ORIENTAL AND CITY OF GLASGOW.

One star differs from another in glory, but the difference is in degree, not in kind. Thus, those whose memories can stretch back for fifty years—

—it is odd how short is the memory of the average man—will find something very familiar in the report of the *Advertiser* Committee of conditions in the affairs of the New Oriental Bank Corporation.

It was just one day of the City of Glasgow Bank

over again, but on a somewhat smaller scale. The Glasgow Bank chucked and flittered and financed and gambled away millions, where the New Oriental was only able to dissipate by the hundred thousand. But considering how much they effected in so short a time, who can say to what sublime height of daring and ruin-working recklessness the Board of the New Oriental might have risen had a few more years been granted to them? There is reason to believe that they would have completely outdone the achievements—and losses—of Overend, Gurney & Co. and of the City of Glasgow Bank rolled into one.

There are two special features in the New Oriental in which the analogy with the Glasgow Bank is most striking. These are, the fabulous and ill-considered character of the "Rest" and advances to the directors and to the various concerns in which they were interested. There is a further analogy in the fact that both banks were resurrected from unfortunate predecessors, and it is open to question whether the poet's words can ever really and properly be adapted to such institutions—that banks may rise on stepping-stones of their dead selves to higher things.

Not to take up, however, "portions and parcels of the dreadful past" any more than may be necessary for our immediate purpose, first let us see as to the "Rest." It began in 1886 with a transfer of £5,803 from profit-and-loss account, and yet a dividend was immediately afterwards declared which absorbed £5,191 of the net profit earned. This profit thus served a double purpose—to pay the shareholders and to form a reserve fund—a triumph of finance not excelled even by the Glasgow Bank. And having thus ingeniously started a "Rest" fund, the New Oriental proceeded to pile it up with a rapidity and dexterity that commanded our admiration—if not exactly our respect.

Between March, 1886, and March, 1886, the "Rest" grew from £5,803 to £116,931. In March, 1891, in spite of some considerable withdrawals to meet allowed losses and pay dividends, it stood at £203,713. How was this remarkable fund formed? By adding £63,000 to the value of the premises acquired from the Liquidators of the old Oriental, and £33,135 to the value of the furniture, by counting twice over a sum of £27,000 paid to the Liquidator of the old concern, on account. This brought up the "Rest" by some £50,000, and the arrangement was so satisfactory to those who devised it that they straightway created another £55,337 by writing up at par the shares in the Oriental Bank Eastern Company, on which only 10s. per share was paid.

It was clever thus to invent so handsome a premium, but it was awkward that they forgot to write any of it off when, shortly before the stoppage of a number of their shares which stood at £1 c. in the "Rest" were sold at 12s. 6d.

Perhaps the most ingenious building up of the "Rest" (and a method such as would have struck the Glasgow Bank directors with admiration) was by means of the Exchange account. Yet it was very simple. Each branch was debited on all remittances of capital, with exchange at the rate of 8d. per up and the difference was put at par the shares in the Oriental Bank Eastern Company, on which only 10s. per share was paid.

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Hongkong, 24th January, 1894.

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